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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claim 1 (original): A method of making an alloy powder for an R-Fe-B-type rare earth magnet, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) preparing a material alloy that is to be used to form the R-Fe-B-type rare earth magnet and that includes a chilled structure that constitutes about 2 volume percent to about 20 volume percent of the material alloy;
- b) coarsely pulverizing the material alloy for the R-Fe-B-type rare earth magnet by utilizing a hydrogen occlusion phenomenon to obtain a coarsely pulverized powder;
- c) finely pulverizing the coarsely pulverized powder and removing at least some of fine powder particles having particle sizes of about 1.0  $\mu\text{m}$  or less from the finely pulverized powder, thereby reducing the volume fraction of the fine powder particles having the particle sizes of about 1.0  $\mu\text{m}$  or less; and
- d) covering the surface of remaining ones of the powder particles with a lubricant after the step c) has been performed.

Claim 2 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the alloy powder has a volume particle size distribution with a single peak and a mean particle size (FSSS particle size) of about 4  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of Claim 2, wherein in the volume particle size distribution, a total volume of particles that have particle sizes falling within a first particle size range is greater than a total volume of particles that have particle sizes falling within a second particle size range, where the first particle size range is

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defined by a particle size A representing the peak of the volume particle size distribution and a predetermined particle size B that is smaller than the particle size A, the second particle size range is defined by the particle size A and another predetermined particle size C that is larger than the particle size A, and the particle size C minus the particle size A is substantially equal to the particle size A minus the particle size B.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 2, wherein a particle size D representing a center of a full width at half maximum of the volume particle size distribution is smaller than a particle size A representing the peak of the volume particle size distribution.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the step of finely pulverizing the coarsely pulverized powder is performed using a high-speed flow of an inert gas.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 5, wherein the coarsely pulverized powder is finely pulverized using a jet mill.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 5, wherein the coarsely pulverized powder is finely pulverized using a pulverizer that is combined with a classifier for classifying the powder particles output from the pulverizer.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the step of preparing the material alloy for the rare earth magnet includes the step of cooling a melt of the material alloy at a cooling rate of about  $10^2$  °C/sec to about  $2 \times 10^2$  °C /sec.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 8, wherein the step of cooling the melt of the material alloy is performed by a strip casting process.

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Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the step of covering the surface of remaining ones of the powder particles with a lubricant includes adding a liquid lubricant to the material alloy powder in amount equal to about 0.15 wt% to about 5.0 wt%, and mixing the liquid lubricant with the powder.

Claim 11 (original): A method for producing an R-Fe-B-type rare earth magnet, comprising the steps of:

preparing an alloy powder for the R-Fe-B-type rare earth magnet according to the method of claim 1;

compacting the alloy powder for the R-Fe-B-type rare earth magnet at a pressure of about 100 Mpa or less by a uniaxial pressing process, thereby making a powder compact; and

sintering the powder compact to produce a sintered magnet.

Claims 12-20 (canceled).